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1 Sep 1953

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Security

Attention: Alien Affairs Division

FROM: Chief, EE

SUBJECT: Request for Aid in Facilitating US Entry for Agent

1. Your assistance is requested in facilitating the entry into the United States of Baron Otto von BOLSCHWING, who was the subject of a discussion between [] of K/A and [] of the Alien Affairs Office on 26 August 1953.

2. Von BOLSCHWING has been working for US Intelligence organizations for the past eight years, six of which have been spent in Agency-sponsored intelligence activities. Because of his services on behalf of US Intelligence organizations, it is considered desirable to assist von BOLSCHWING to come to the United States on an immigration visa, but we do not wish to sponsor him under Section 8 of the CIA act of 1949. [] has indicated that because of Von BOLSCHWING's membership in the NSDAP and the SD (details of which are set forth below), his entry into the United States must be cleared with the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Since von BOLSCHWING has been advised by case officers that all reasonable assistance will be given him to come into this country on an immigration visa, the use of your good offices in taking the matter up with I and NS is requested.

VON BOLSCHWING's US VISA

Von BOLSCHWING was issued immigrant visa # 14846 at the American Consulate General in Munich on 24 August 1953. It was granted under the German quota. The expiration date is 23 December 1953. We have been informed that von BOLSCHWING's arrival in the U.S. may be expected approximately 1 November 1953.

BACKGROUND DATA ON VON BOLSCHWING

The information given below was furnished by von BOLSCHWING himself. Results of all checks made by the Agency confirm the biographical data submitted by

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von BOLSCHWING. As requested, the field has been asked to supply the following items which will be forwarded to you as soon as received:

- a. The results of a polygraph test given within the last six months;
- b. The results of an up-to-date recheck of field traces;
- c. A current assessment of von BOLSCHWING by case officer.

PERSONAL DATA:

Born 15 October 1909 in Schönbrück, East Prussia (then German territory, since World War II Polish). German citizen at birth, but since World War II considered stateless. Married in 1938 to Brigitte nee KLENZENDORFF. Divorced 1942. Remarried to Ruth nee von FFLAUNDLER in 1943. One son, Gisbert, from first marriage, born 1939, given by court decree to custody of von BOLSCHWING.

PAST OCCUPATIONS

1927 apprentice at shipping firm, Royal Mail Steamship Company, London
1928-30 employee of export firm, C. Illies & Co., Hamburg
1930-31 manager of Oberon Investment and Development Company, Berlin and Vienna
1930-32 owner of lime factory, Upper Silesian Lime and Cement Works Ltd.
1932 banking course with the Bank für Industrieobligationen, Berlin
1931-33 European representative of investment interests of several London investment firms
1932-33 businessman negotiating deals for industrial development in Bulgaria (backed by international finance and German Foreign Office).
1933-35 search in Palestine for treasure supposedly buried by German Army in World War I
1933-36 manager of own export firm, Amaneh Company, Jerusalem and Cairo
During this period advised German Foreign Office on trade questions
1937-39 foreign exchange and tax counselor, Vienna and Berlin
1939-41 chief of SD intelligence in Rumania (under diplomatic cover)
1941 intelligence assignments in Greece and Holland
1942-43 under Gestapo arrest
1943-45 manager of Vienna branch of Pharmachemie (pharmaceutical firm)
1945-46 with US military organizations and with US Military Government in Austria and Bavaria
1947-present U.S. Intelligence (CIA)

RELATIONS WITH NSDAP

According to von BOLSCHWING, he ran into difficulty when in March 1932 he tried to get Government consent to erect a cement factory in East Prussia.

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After discussing the problem with leaders of all parties, and meeting with interest, but no support, he was advised by the military district commander in East Prussia to take the matter up with the "coming" NSDAP. Von BOLSCHWING then contacted the Gauleiter through his brother's butler who was a local NSDAP group leader. The butler agreed to arrange the meeting on condition that Von BOLSCHWING fill out a Party application form. Von BOLSCHWING did so, although he considered the application as a mere formality. He took no part in Party affairs, nor did he meet the Gauleiter. In 1934, when in the Middle East, he learned that the application had been accepted. He did not participate in any Party affairs, and was rebuked by the group leader in Palestine for this. In 1935 when he was in Germany negotiating for the general agency of the Autounion firm in the Middle East, he was informed that the Auslandsorganisation (section of the NSDAP dealing with Germans abroad) had refused to grant him the agency because he had not complied with Party directives. In an attempt to protect himself against these charges, he arranged through his brother's butler to get him Party membership book by paying the fees back to 1932.

RELATIONS WITH SD and SS

In the winter of 1937-38, and again in 1938, von BOLSCHWING was arrested by the Gestapo and accused of pro-Jewish sympathies, but was freed by the intervention of highly-placed SS connections who offered him protection in return for payment. When the war broke out in September 1939 he was called to the Hilfspolizei, but through the help of the highly placed connections just mentioned, he was made SD chief of intelligence ad interim in Rumania. In arranging the appointment the SS connections "cooked up" the story that von BOLSCHWING was a reliable old-time Nazi and that he had been an SS applicant since 1937. In April 1941 von BOLSCHWING was informed that he had become "Untersturmführer" in the SS; two promotions were given him between then and early in 1941. From 1939 until February 1941 he was in Rumania as chief of SD intelligence under Foreign Office cover. At the end of this time, because of disagreement with the Nazi Party on their policy toward the Rumanian Iron Guard, he got into serious trouble. Several months later he was sent on an intelligence mission to Greece where he this time disagreed with the Party's automatic arrest policy, was relieved of his command and returned to Berlin. Through the influence of SS General JOST, he was assigned in August 1941 to IS work in Holland, from which he tried to build a line to Portugal to contact Western intelligence directly. When JOST fell into disgrace von BOLSCHWING was recalled to Berlin in December 1941 and henceforth was under watch by the Gestapo. He was under medical treatment until July 1942, but in September 1942 was arrested by the Gestapo and kept in Gestapo confinement in Berlin until April 1943. During this time he claims it was discovered that his Party membership was "more than dubious" and that had "actually never been an SS member" (apparently it was found out that the stories made up by von BOLSCHWING's sponsors to get him the SD assignment in Bucharest were untrue). In a seeming effort to save face, the SS demoted him from officer to enlisted man rank and then discharged him from the SS.

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ANTI-NAZI and RESISTANCE ACTIVITIES

After his release by the Gestapo, von BOLSCHWING obtained a position in Vienna as manager of the Austrian branch of a pharmaceutical concern. His second wife, whom he married in 1943, is part Jewish. Von BOLSCHWING made contact with members of the Vienna resistance clergy; in 1944 through his brother-in-law he made contact with a small resistance group in the Tyrol. In February 1945 he was arrested by the Gestapo, Vienna, but was released after giving a bribe. He then fled with his wife to the Tyrol where he worked in a resistance group with which he had been in contact for some time. For his activities on behalf of Austrian Resistance he was awarded the Tyrolean honor certificate in May 1946.

Complying with Austrian law, von BOLSCHWING registered in February 1950, indicating that he had held the rank of Hauptsturmführer, but was informed several days later that through a decision made by Austrian authorities he was exempted from registration because of his Austrian resistance activities.

INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES ON BEHALF OF US

Von BOLSCHWING met the incoming American troops in the Tyrol, worked with their security forces several months, and earned commendations from these units for his work. From the end of 1945 through 1946 he worked for the US Military Government, mostly in the Garmisch-Partenkirchen area (southern Bavaria). Since June 1947 he has been employed in Agency-sponsored intelligence activities.

PRIOR TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES

As of possible interest to the present problem is the fact that von BOLSCHWING visited the United States in 1939. At that time he wanted to emigrate to the United States and made a preliminary trip to look over financial possibilities here. He returned to Germany, intending to emigrate with his wife and infant son, but the outbreak of war made these plans impossible.

MEMORANDUM TO SPECIAL SECURITY DIVISION

As requested by [] J, a memorandum containing biographical data on von BOLSCHWING has been written to the Special Security Division which has assigned case number #67215 to von BOLSCHWING.

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